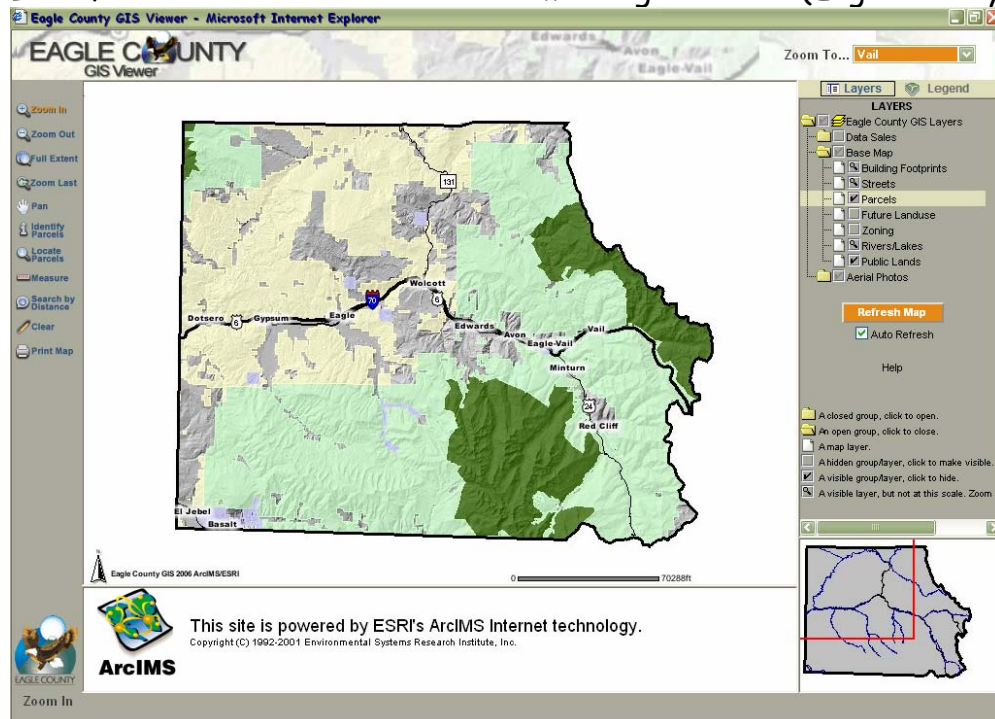# Adding a Internet GIS Server to Arc GIS/Map

Many counties are now serving up geographical data via the internet. Many times this data can be imported into Arc GIS/Map. This is a great way to share data because it doesn't involve NRCS purchasing, maintaining, or updating any data that the county provides. Some data layers that may be provided are streets, city boundaries, parcel layers, or any data the county wants the public to have access to. There are a lot of these internet servers that provide data throughout the country (short list of sites follows). The ESRI software that most entities are using to serve up data is called Arc IMS
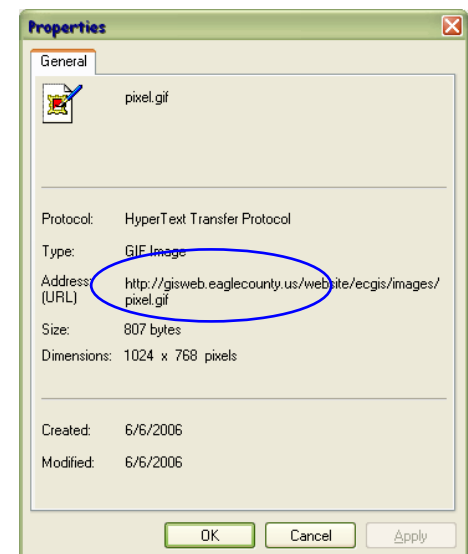
To know if your county or entity is serving up data you can either call the county or look at their web site. If they have a website that serves up GIS data then you probably can access it. Here's how:

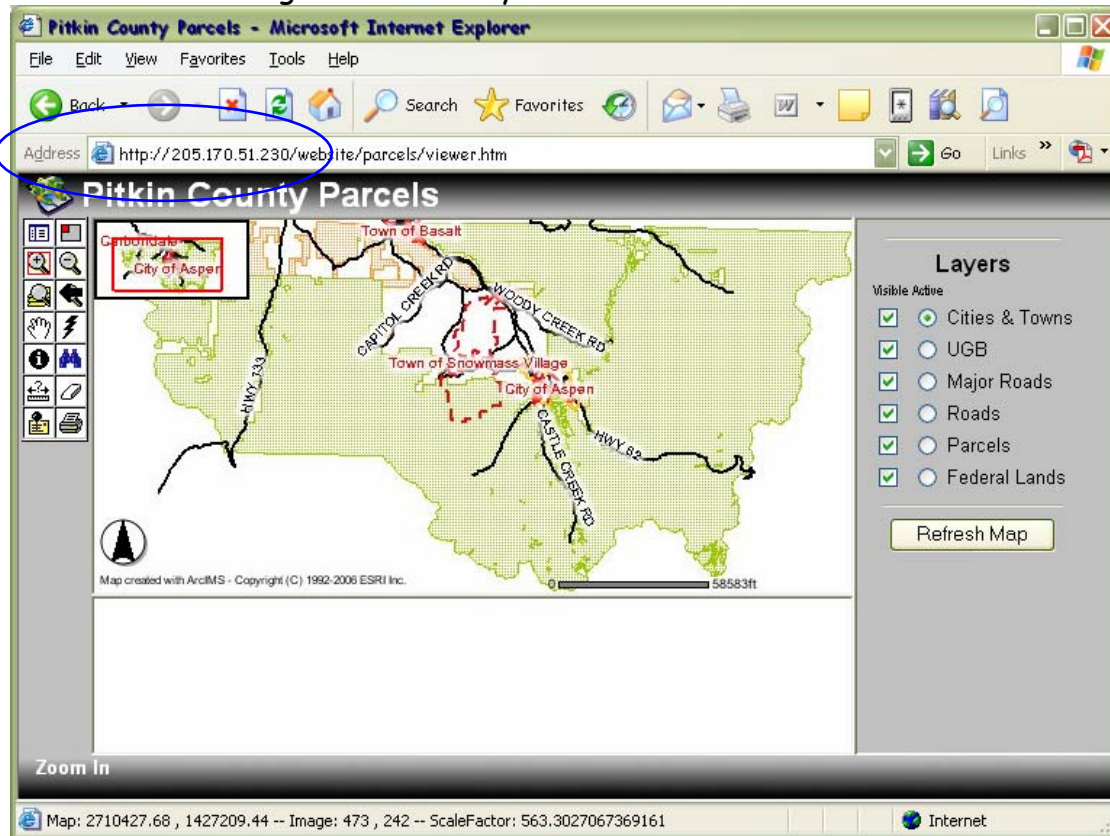Look for the web site that looks something like this: (Eagle County)

Sometimes, as with this site, the http: address doesn't show up. You may need to right click on the site and get the address (right click, then left click on properties). Look for the http: address and write it down.

Here you can see that the address is http://gisweb.eaglecounty.us, this is all you need. You won't need the rest of the address. You may also get this info from the entities GIS coordinator.
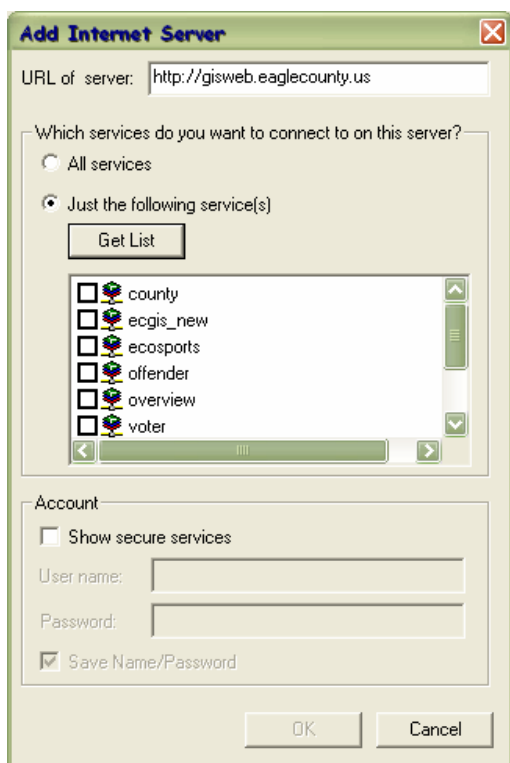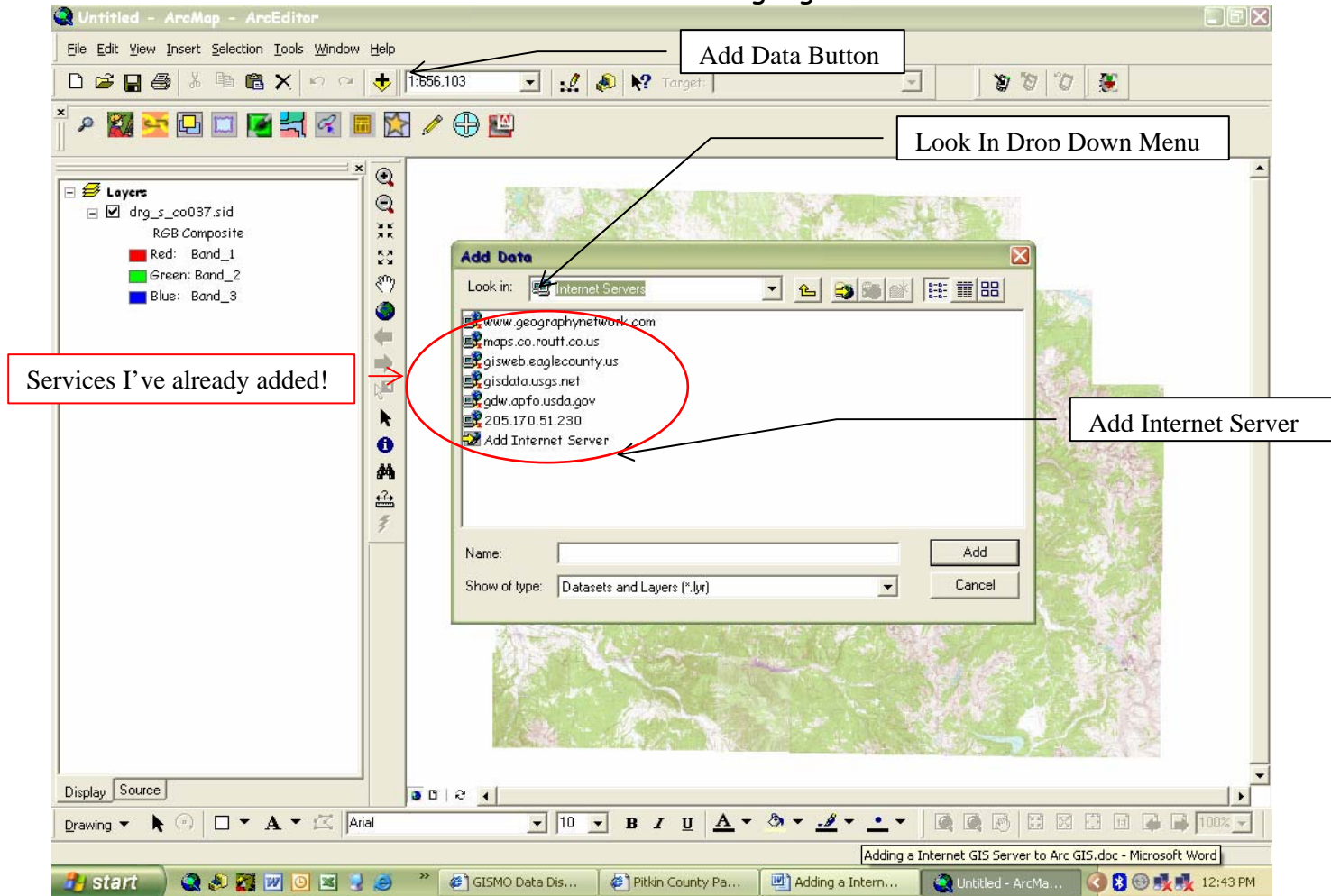
Sometimes the web address is in the address line like here in Pitkin County. This address is 205.170.51.230. Again don't worry about the rest of the address.
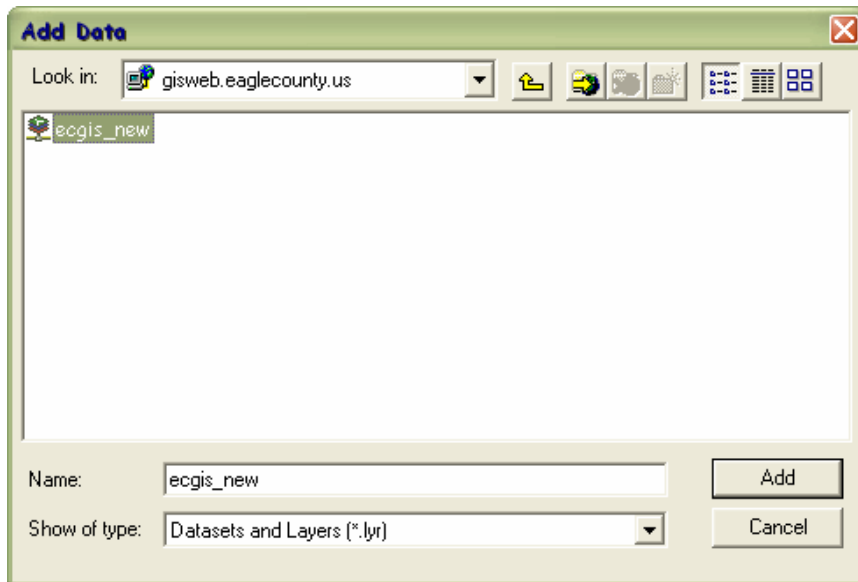

Once you have this address go into Arc Map. You can use your Toolkit templates or any other .mxd file that you have created or a blank map.

When you're in Arc Map click on the 'add data' button (can be done in Arc Catalog as well). When the 'Add Data' box shows up click on the 'Look In' drop down menu and select Internet Servers. Double Click on 'Add Internet Server' or highlight and Click on Add.
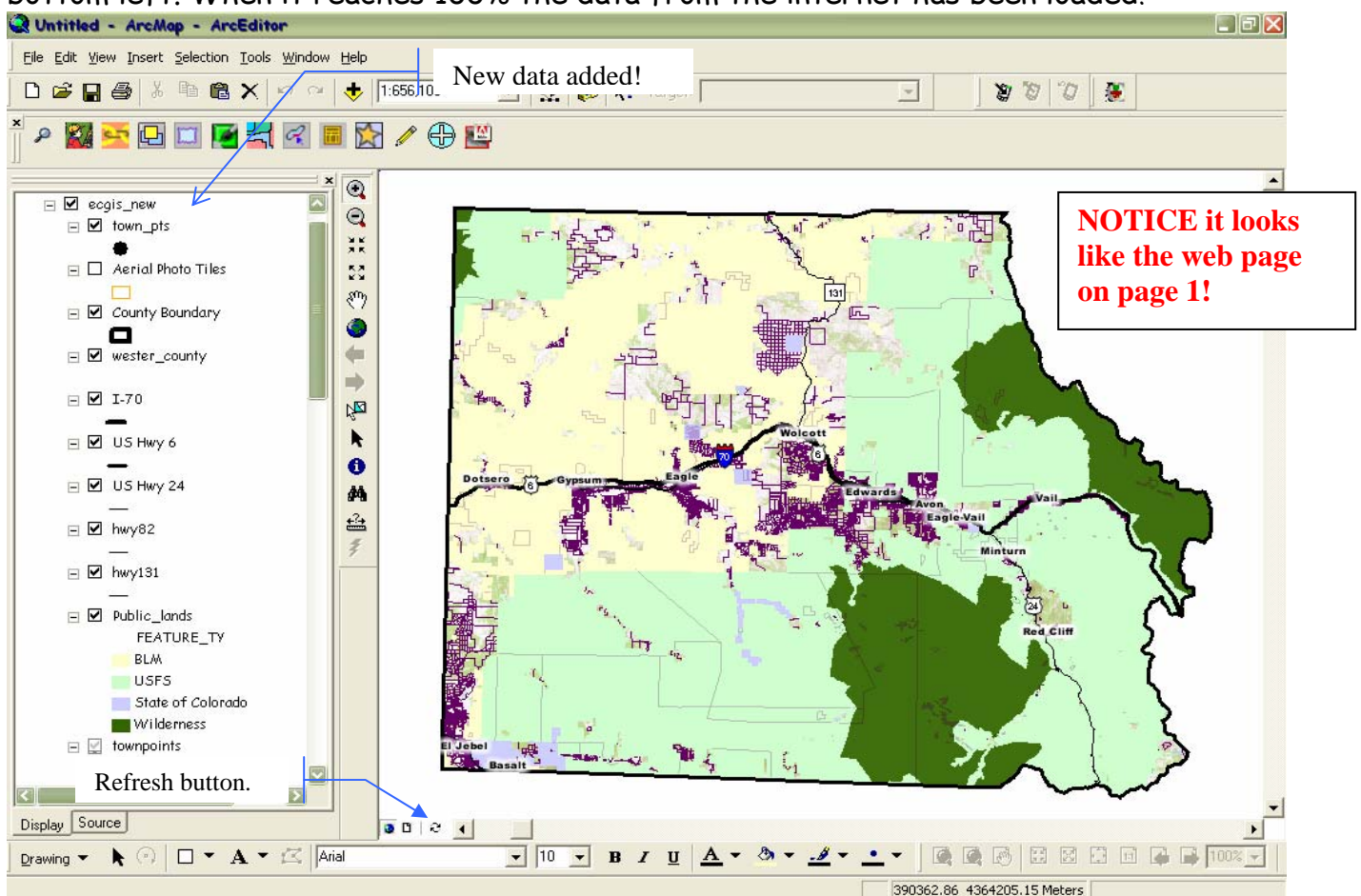

In the dialog box type in the URL of the server. Here you can choose either 'Get List' of the information they have or 'All Services'. I suggest get list then you can pick from the list and not get overloaded.

Here you can see many choices. You may want to contact the entities GIS coordinator to know which one to pick that will give you what you want. Here I picked ecgis_new because this is where the most up to date info for Eagle County is found. If it's a secure service you will have to fill out the information on the bottom under Account. Click OK and the box below will show up, Click Add. Once you have done this you will always be able to connect to this data through the 'Add Data' button and the 'Look In' Internet Services.

Add Data dialog box with:
- Look in: gisweb.eaglecounty.us
- ecgis_new
- Name: ecgis_new
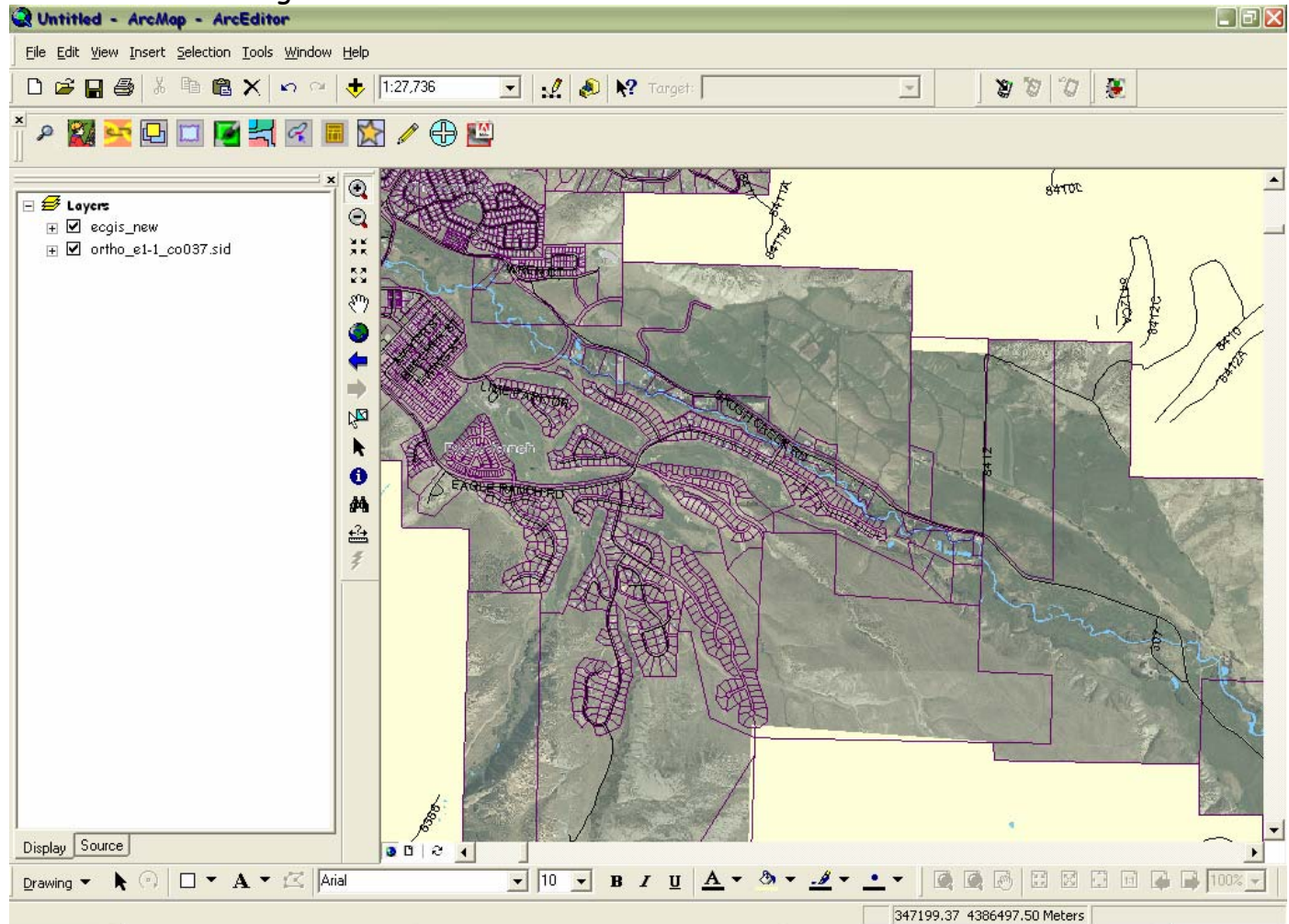- Show of type: Datasets and Layers (*.lyr)
- Add / Cancel buttons

You may get an error message about Spatial Reference Data depending on your county. Ignore this. You will see the data load in the data display box, sometimes the data doesn't load right away so click on the 'refresh' button. You will see a loading dialog box on the bottom left. When it reaches 100% the data from the internet has been loaded!

New data added!

NOTICE it looks like the web page on page 1!

Refresh button.

You will not be able to manipulate the layers all that much. The tables and some info will not be available for you to look at or change. However, this is a good way to use data from

different sources and lay it on our topo or ortho layers. Some layers will disappear or appear depending on the view scale. This is set at the source and can't be changed by the user.

Here is one thing you can get: Ortho imagery with parcel layer, public lands, water courses, roads and road designation.

If you have any questions contact your Area Resource Conservationist for Technology.
AREA 1: BARBARA CENCICH: barbara.cencich@co.usda.gov
AREA 2: PAUL WEBER: paul.weber@co.usda.gov
AREA 3: CHARLES PANNEBAKER: charles.pannebaker@co.usda.gov
AREA 4: MARIANNA YOUNG: marianna.young@co.usda.gov
STATE: MICHAEL WALL: michael.wall@co.usda.gov
Web Sites That Have Data:
www.geographynetwork.com
gdw.apfo.usda.gov
gisdata.usgs.net
sdmws.nrcs.usda.gov

Document Created by Stephen R. Jaouen
Range Management Specialist
USDA, NRCS
Glenwood Springs, CO